

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11049 181650Z POSS DUPE
ACTION EUR-03

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P 181645Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1866

CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 11049

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. REGARDING OUR UPHILL BATTLE WITH MFA ON LIBERALIZING
EXIT/ENTRY POINTS FOR OUR OFFICIAL PERSONNEL: YOU MAY
RECALL THAT THE STANDARD SOVIET RESPONSE TO OUR TEN FOR
TEN PROPOSAL HAS BEEN TO COUNTER WITH A PROPOSAL FOR EACH
SIDE TO ISSUE VISAS TO OFFICIAL PERSONNEL VALID FOR ALL
EXIT/ENTRY POINTS IN OPEN AREAS. WE THINK WE HAVE COME UP
WITH AN ANODYNE CONCESSION TO THE SOVIETS WHICH COULD BE
MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE. THE THOUGHT STRIKES US THAT, IN
RESPONSE TO THE NEW SOVIET "LIBERALIZED" CLOSED AREA
NOTE OF JANUARY 4, 1978, WE CAN ISSUE A NOTE WHICH MAKES
SOME COSMETIC CHANGES AND CLOSES ALL AREAS CONTAINING
EXIT/ENTRY POINTS WHICH WE DON'T WANT SOVIETS TO USE.
(FOR EXAMPLE, BY CLOSING 50 KM ZONE AROUND ALL BORDERS,
AS SOVIETS DO, AND MERELY LEAVING THOSE OPEN WHERE TRANSIT
PERMITTED.) WE SHALL THEN BE IN A POSITION TO ANNOUNCE
TO THE MFA THAT WE ACCEPT ITS PROPOSAL TO ISSUE VISAS
VALID FOR ENTRY/EXIT AT ALL POINTS IN OPEN AREAS. DO
YOU HAVE ANY OBJECTIONS TO OUR FLESHING OUT THIS PROPOSAL
VIA THE OPEN CHANNEL? WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 11049 181650Z POSS DUPE

BEFORE WE DO SO.

2. LETTER HAS ARRIVED FROM CARL COON IN FSI REGARDING MY
ASSIGNMENT TO VANDERBILT. IN IT HE MENTIONED POSSIBILITY
OF RENTING PROFESSOR ROBERT DONALDSON'S HOUSE. LATTER
IS WRITING ME A LETTER ABOUT THIS, BUT IN VIEW OF THE
SLOW MAILS, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO OBTAIN THE DETAILS MORE

QUICKLY. COULD SOMEONE IN SOV, OR IN COON'S OFFICE,
TELEPHONE DONALDSON TO FIND OUT FOLLOWING:

- A. WHEN HOUSE WOULD BE AVAILABLE;
- B. RENT, AND WHETHER 30-DAY OR 60-DAY TERMINATION CLAUSE
WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE IN LEASE (IN UNLIKELY EVENT OF MY
UNPLANNED TRANSFER);
- C. ADDRESS AND SIZE OF HOUSE.
FYI IF DONALDSON HOUSE IS LARGE WE MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER
APARTMENT AS ALTERNATIVE, SINCE WE WILL BE WITHOUT CHILDREN
MOST OF TIME. IF VANDERBILT HOUSING OFFICE COULD ADVISE
ON AVAILABILITY AND PRICE OF 2-3 BR APARTMENTS CONVENIENT
TO VANDERBILT, THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL IN CONSIDERING
ALTERNATIVES.

3. FOR AMBASSADOR: DO YOU CONCUR IN PLANNING JULY 4
PICNIC FOR AMERICAN COMMUNITY AT DACHA 10:00 A.M. TO
2:00 P.M.? (THIS WOULD GIVE PARTICIPANTS TIME TO RETURN
HOME AND DRESS FOR SPASO RECEPTION.)

4. FROM PORTER TO GARRISON. EXPECT TO BE IN MOSCOW MAY 27
AND WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOU AT OPENING OF BUSINESS WASHING-
TON TIME FOR DISCUSSION OF ASSIGNMENT PROSPECTS AND MY
PLANS FOR DEPARTING KIEV. PLEASE INDICATE IF THIS IS A
CONVENIENT TIME FOR YOU. WOULD YOU ALSO APPRISE EDMINSTER
IN PER THAT I WILL ALSO BE CALLING HIM.

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 11049 181650Z POSS DUPE

5. RE STATE 126029. BOB GERMAN CALLED BILL BROWN MAY 18
AND IT WAS AGREED THAT BOB WOULD FLY HERE EVENING OF
MAY 31 FOR TWO DAY'S CONSULTATION JUNE 1-2. IN RESPONSE
TO BOB'S QUERY BILL SAID WE WOULD RELUCTANTLY AGREE
TO BILL'S DEPARTURE ON OR ABOUT JULY 10 AND THAT WE
UNDERSTOOD THAT BOB WOULD ARRIVE HERE IN LATE AUGUST.
MATLOCK

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